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EDITED BY SAMUEL WAGNER.

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“———To Us, both field and grove,  
Garden and Orchard, lawn and flowery mead,  
The blue-vein'd violet, rich columbine,  
The wanton cowslip, daisies in their prime,  
With all the choicest blossoms of the lea,  
Are free allowed and given.”

PARLIAMENT OF BEES, JOHN DAY, 1607.

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the queen mates on the wing, or otherwise, out of the hive and away from observation, may she not mate with more than one drone? In my experience in raising queens, I could watch their departure from the hive; keep the time of their absence from home; and take notice of their appearance on their return. When returning with the genital organs protruding, filled with a whitish substance, I considered them fertilized, and would watch their movements with care afterwards, taking notice when they commenced laying, &c. Thus I have tested this matter of queen mating until I am satisfied that the same queen leaves the hive on two successive days, and returns with the same evidence of copulation, and after that ceases flying. In other cases I have caught them on their return to the hive with marks of having mated, and clipped their wings; and then, on the following day, at the hour when the drones were on the wing, I saw them come forth also and attempt to fly; and I would pick them up and place them in the hive again, though in some cases I lost them. In one case I had a fine Italian queen, which flew on twelve days in succession, before she came back with marks of having mated. (I had but few drones at the time, and there were then no bees kept within thirty miles of me.) She flew on one or two days after that, but returned without giving evidence of having mated again. She produced a finely colored progeny, but was a very slow breeder and her workers were not very energetic.

From these observations I have come to the conclusion that a queen may mate with more than one drone, though not necessarily always. Should she be sufficiently fertilized by one drone, she would not fly a second time. Should she mate with drones of different blood, her workers would show it, and if not sufficiently fertilized, she might show it in her slow breeding.

I do not give this my experience and observation in this matter to upset other theories; but to state them as facts coming under my own observation in bee-culture. And I am anxious to know how any one can state to a certainty that a queen mates with only one drone. I have written more on this subject than I intended, but if it will add my practical knowledge to bee-culture it is well enough.

A. J. SMITH.

Ukiah, California, Sept. 17, 1871.

[For the American Bee Journal.]

### Report and Suggestion.

The past season has been rather a poor one, for honey, in this vicinity, owing to a cold wet spring and a dry summer. Forty-two colonies, wintered without loss, in large Langstroth hives, on their summer stands, with honey-boards replaced by cotton batting comforters, gave me only eight swarms (two of which flew away in my absence) and about nine hundred and fifty (950) pounds of surplus honey—two hundred

and twenty-five pounds of which was taken by the extractor.

The new swarms were each supplied with one or more frames of sealed honey, taken from the old colonies; and now the forty-eight stocks are in good condition for wintering.—With my present plan for wintering, I have no more fear of losing a colony in winter, than I have of losing one in summer. I have not lost a colony the three past winters.

To prevent robbing, keep the entrance to all weak colonies open only half an inch, till they get strong. Strengthen them up as rapidly as possible, with maturing brood from other colonies. I have had colonies queenless from March till June or July, without their being attacked by robbers, when the entrances were thus closed.

To cure robbing after it has vigorously begun, tack a piece of wire cloth over the front of the portico, and leave it until the bees have nearly done flying at night. Then remove it, allowing the robbers to leave, and the outside members of the robbed colony to re-enter. Replace the wire cloth, if there is fear of the robbing being continued the next day. Give the robbed colony a frame of brood and adhering bees, if it has no queen. If it has a queen, cage her for three days, and give brood and bees, as before.

R. BICKFORD.

Seneca Falls, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1871.

[For the American Bee Journal.]

### Report from New Boston, Illinois.

We have sixty Thomas hives; from which we had taken three thousand (3,000) pounds of honey, making an average of fifty (50) pounds to the hive.

Our best hive yielded 175 lbs. Our four best averaged 133½ lbs.; and our fourteen best averaged 94 lbs.

Our honey slinger, made of oak, does its work perfectly, and has not soured, as feared by some, while using it two seasons.

In shipping honey we have concluded that the only safe way is to accompany it and *know to whom* you sell. Nearly a year ago we expressed 590 lbs. to A. F. Moon, Paw Paw, Michigan. It was received somewhat damaged, and sold for us on commission, but we have not yet received the first cent from him.

Paying dear for a lesson, we sent to C. O. Perrine a trial keg of honey, after receiving his price, viz.: from 16 to 18 cents for slung honey, for which we received a trifle over ten cents per pound—saying that it was one-third water. The same honey, drawn from the same barrel, is being used by us and neighbors, and called thick white honey.

J. P. Fortune, of Bloomfield, Iowa, writes us: "I sent one barrel to C. O. Perrine, which has been lost, or at least it never reached its destination."

Yours, for a sweet living,

PALMER BROS.

New Boston, Ill., Oct. 4, 1871.

[For the American Bee Journal.]

### A Nut for Novice & Co.

This 4th day of March, when examining my stocks, I found No. 10 had a large quantity of brood in all stages. The nut to be cracked is this: I could discover only one queen, and yet of the three dozen workers which I saw hatch out, there were some three banded, some two banded, and some no-banded. Will Novice, Gallup, and Grimm, each be so kind enough to give his individual opinion in the next number of the American Bee Journal, why the worker progeny of a queen, hatching all at the same time, are so differently marked; and oblige

TYRO.

## Advertisement.

Territory for the "THOMAS' HIVE," in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri, can be obtained of

PALMER BROS.,  
New Boston, Ills.

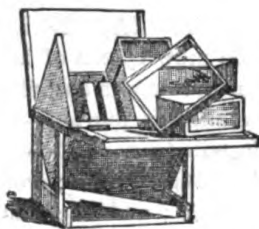
Send stamp for circular.  
April, 1871.—3ms.

## Italian Queen Bees.

I shall breed ITALIAN QUEEN BEES for sale the coming season, from Imported Mothers of undoubted purity. My patrons may rest assured of being honorably dealt with. Orders solicited. Send for circular.

WM. W. CAREY,  
Colerain,  
Franklin Co., Mass.

April, 1871.—5ms.



The NEATEST, CHEAPEST and BEST

## SUMMER & WINTER HIVE,

Securing the straightest combs in the Frames, and the easiest frame to remove, with the largest space for surplus boxes, is the

### DIAMOND FRAME HIVE.

Hives and Territory for sale.

Send stamp for Circular and Price List of Pure Italian Queens, Bees and Hives.

DR. A. V. CONKLIN,  
Bennington, Morrow Co., Ohio.

## ITALIAN BEES.

Full Colonies in spring and fall; and Queens throughout the season. Circulars sent free.

Address, R. M. ARGO,  
Lowell,  
April, 1871.—3ms. Garrard Co., Ky.

## ITALIAN QUEEN BEES FOR 1871.

I would respectfully inform my former patrons, and all others who wish to procure highly-colored and prolific Queens, that I am prepared to fill all orders for TESTED or WARRANTED QUEENS, without delay. Queens raised in full colonies. Satisfaction guaranteed. Circulars for 1871 sent free. Address,

GORDON BOUGHTON,  
P. O. box 74,  
Illiopolis, Ills.

April, 1871.—6ms.

## R. R. Murphy's Honey Extractor.

The best, most durable and cheapest geared machine in the market. It will empty more Honey, with the least injury to the comb, in the same length of time, than any other machine now in use.

Send stamp for terms. Address,  
R. R. MURPHY,  
Fulton, Ills.

April, 1871.—2ms.

(ADVERTISEMENT.)

## ITALIAN QUEEN BEES.

One home-reared Queen and the American Bee Journal one year for \$6; or one Queen without the Journal for \$5.

Price of imported Queens regulated by cost and loss in importing.

Circulars sent free. Address,  
H. NESBIT,  
Cynthiana, Ky.

April, 1871.—tf.

## COMB GUIDE PRESS.

With this instrument a child can put Wax Comb Guides on twelve frames in five minutes.

Price of the instrument, delivered at the Express office, \$1.25. Send stamp for a sample.

## COMB-FASTENING PRESS.

This implement fastens quickly and substantially Dry Combs, or Comb Foundations, in the frames. Price, \$2.

Comb-Guide Press and Comb-Fastening Press, together, \$3. When ordering, send the inside length of the top bar of your frames.

Patent solicited.  
CH. DADANT,  
Hamilton, Ills.

April, 1871.—tf.